

Meeting Minutes Report

Date & Time: December 08, 2009. 7:00PM

Present: Michael Smith, Co-chair Historic District Commission *Absent:*

Paul Bell, Co-chair HDC

Lydia Ogilby, Co-chair HDC Emerit[ae] [Richard Cheek,]

Joe Cornish, HDC member [HDC Emeritus]

Peter Gunness, HDC member

Lauren Meier, HDC member

Richard Pichette, HDC member

Arleyn Levee, HDC member

Lisa Harrington, HDC member

Allan Vanderley, HDC member

Leon DeMagistri, [visitor] *Distribution:*

Alex Pyle, [visitor] All members

Office of the Town

By: Nancy Richards, [HDC member] Administrator

Item: Description:

Action:

1. BHDC GUIDELINES: Progress and Approval [L.M./J.C.]

1.1 A motion was made to approve the Guidelines. [A] vote to approve was unanimous.

1.2 It was proposed that a small brochure –style version be written and published for general distribution.

1.3 The larger complete [unabridged] version will be uploaded to the Town's online website.

1.4 It was proposed that the Belmont Historic District Commission get a cost estimate for reproduction of 40-[to]-100 copies to be made.

HDC

TBD

L.M.

2. DISCUSSION OF BHDC MANDATE

2.1 Question: How do we make the general public and especially the Town Officers aware that the BHDC has advisory powers in its role as the Historic[al] Commission?

2.2 It was proposed to have the name of the BHDC changed somehow to include "Historic[al] Commission".

2.3 It was proposed to devote a section in the BHDC Minutes to business pertaining to its functioning as the Historic[al] Commission.

M.S.

HDC/HC

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3. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN [J.C.]

3.1 [Joe Cornish] JC presented an update on the process: [and] a discussion ensued regarding BHDC's stance and strategy of its Historic Preservation concepts and guidelines being included in it. In its role as Historic[al] Commission, the BHDC is heavily involved with this project. [Joe] JC chairs the related Working Group.

2.2 Announcement: [The] first public Comprehensive Plan Workshop to be held on December 17th at the Beach Center [Beech Street]. [The] agenda includes reports from the six separate work groups.

2.3 There was some discussion about the parking problem, an issue of wide interest in Belmont and of particular concern to the BHDC if the town considers construction of parking structures.

J.C.

HDC

4. 6 STELLA ROAD: Review of Appropriateness for Proposed Driveway Modification

6.1 Mr Alex Pyle, Owner seeks approval to enlarge the driveway by a proposed additional

12-foot-by-12-foot mid-way between the garage and roadway in order to be able to turn around to entering [onto] Pleasant Street. The plan calls for the use pavers and protection of an existing tree.

6.2 Discussion centered on the possibility of parking in the new space.

6.3 A motion was made to approve Mr Pyle's Application for a turnaround and railings was proposed; [the motion was] seconded and passed.

HDC

5. IL'CASALE RISTORANTE

5.1 Mr Leon DeMagistri seeks approval for as seasonal enclosure, a tent-like structure as entry on the side of the building for the purpose off protecting customers from inclement weather. It will be deployed and used only from the months of October through April each year. The existing canopy over the door will remain in-place. Lighting and heating fixtures will be located indoors only.

5.2 A motion was made to approve Mr DeMagistri's Application for a seasonal weather enclosure; the motion was seconded and passed. [Allan Vanderley abstained.]

HDC

6. LIASON REPORTS

6.1 Sustainable Belmont: [Michael Smith] SC [reported that] the [Sustainable Belmont] Committee has been in contact with the [Board of] Selectmen. [Allan Vanderley] AV is involved in the Energy Committee. He would like to see the Historical Commission representation encouraging pursuit of energy conservation issues.

6.2 Barn at Rock Meadow: A site visit tour is scheduled for December-15'th from 1:00PM to 2:00PM. Also, a field trip was made to Groton.

6.3. Demolition activities: [Joe Cornish] JC reported that there is no activity to consider.

6.4 Demolition Review Bylaw: [Allan Vanderley] AV [reported] the bylaw is being rewritten to reflect preservation concerns in general. The [Historical Commission] BHDC is looking for proper language to depict the mission and to oversee the actual writing of the new bylaw. [Allan and Richard Pichette encourage not using the term "demolition"].

M.S.

A.V.

M.S.

A.V.

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6.5 Town Hall Operational Improvements: A concerned group is addressing drainage and paving issues. [Allan] AV is a participant. A potential part of the solution may add pavers to the driveway [area], which would require BHDC approval. Also, there should be a plan, and not have issues addressed on an ad-hoc basis.

A.V.

7. MEETING MINUTES

Formal preparation of the Minutes for the November Meeting has not yet [been] completed, [therefore] none were presented.

8. NEW [& OLD] BUSINESS

8.1 A Community Preservation Committee is being formed with the first meeting to be held in the near future.

8.2 It was suggested that the name of "Historic[al] Commission" as the first line on the Guidelines publications.

[9.] [NEXT MEETING.....Second Tuesday, February 9, 2009]

10. Meeting adjourned 9:20[PM and Meeting notes submitted for approval]. *N.R.*

END OF MEETING